



MECCA CENTER NEWSLETTER

February 2018 | Jumada Al-Awwal 1439 - Jumada Al-Akhirah 1439 | Issue 30

www.meccacenter.org



Dr. M.A. Hamadeh
President

Building A Bright Future

Dear Mecca Center Community, Asalamu Alaikum,

I hope this message finds you and your family in the best of health and iman.

In 2018, we not only mark one year since opening the doors of our new masjid and center, but also significant growth in our community, alhamdulillah. Our services and programs such as the Mecca Center Sunday School, Quran Institute, and youth MVMT aim to nurture the mind and spirit of younger generations and allow us to build a brighter future for our community, insha'Allah.

Join us as we “Build A Bright Future” on Sunday, February 11 at Drury Lane for our Annual Fundraiser. This is an exciting time in Mecca Center history as we advance our mission of establishing, guiding, and serving the Muslim community by enriching the mind, spirit, and sense of civic responsibility among our members.

Our center nurtures Allah-fearing, civically engaged, active proponents of social justice, and through your continued support of our programs, future generations will inherit an everlasting reward, in this life and in the hereafter. Jazakum Allahu Khairan.

Wassalamu Alaikum,

M.A. Hamadeh, MD
President, Mecca Center

Annual Fundraiser details on page 3



THE MECCA CENTER

PRAYER SCHEDULE

February 2018 Prayer Times | Jumada Al-Awwal 1439 - Jumada Al-Akhirah 1439

Day اليوم	February فبراير	Jumada Al-Awwal جمادى الأولى	Fajr الفجر	Sunrise الشروق	Dhuhr الظهر	Asr العصر	Maghrib المغرب	Isha العشاء
Thu	1	14	5:45 AM	7:04 AM	12:06 PM	2:45 PM	5:07 PM	6:27 PM
Fri	2	15	5:44 AM	7:03 AM	12:06 PM	2:46 PM	5:08 PM	6:28 PM
Sat	3	16	5:43 AM	7:02 AM	12:06 PM	2:47 PM	5:10 PM	6:29 PM
Sun	4	17	5:42 AM	7:01 AM	12:06 PM	2:48 PM	5:11 PM	6:30 PM
Mon	5	18	5:41 AM	7:00 AM	12:06 PM	2:49 PM	5:12 PM	6:31 PM
Tues	6	19	5:40 AM	6:59 AM	12:06 PM	2:50 PM	5:14 PM	6:32 PM
Wed	7	20	5:39 AM	6:58 AM	12:06 PM	2:51 PM	5:15 PM	6:33 PM
Thu	8	21	5:38 AM	6:56 AM	12:06 PM	2:53 PM	5:16 PM	6:35 PM
Fri	9	22	5:37 AM	6:55 AM	12:07 PM	2:54 PM	5:17 PM	6:36 PM
Sat	10	23	5:36 AM	6:54 AM	12:07 PM	2:55 PM	5:19 PM	6:37 PM
Sun	11	24	5:35 AM	6:53 AM	12:07 PM	2:56 PM	5:20 PM	6:38 PM
Mon	12	25	5:34 AM	6:51 AM	12:07 PM	2:57 PM	5:21 PM	6:39 PM
Tue	13	26	5:34 AM	6:51 AM	12:07 PM	2:57 PM	5:21 PM	6:39 PM
Wed	14	27	5:31 AM	6:49 AM	12:06 PM	2:59 PM	5:24 PM	6:41 PM
Thu	15	28	5:30 AM	6:47 AM	12:06 PM	2:59 PM	5:25 PM	6:43 PM
Fri	16	29	5:29 AM	6:46 AM	12:06 PM	3:00 PM	5:26 PM	6:44 PM
Sat	17	30	5:28 AM	6:45 AM	12:06 PM	3:01 PM	5:28 PM	6:45 PM
Sun	18	Jumada Al-Akhirah	5:26 AM	6:43 AM	12:06 PM	3:02 PM	5:29 PM	6:46 PM
Mon	19	2	5:25 AM	6:42 AM	12:06 PM	3:03 PM	5:30 PM	6:47 PM
Tue	20	3	5:24 AM	6:41 AM	12:06 PM	3:04 PM	5:31 PM	6:48 PM
Wed	21	4	5:22 AM	6:39 AM	12:06 PM	3:05 PM	5:32 PM	6:50 PM
Thu	22	5	5:21 AM	6:38 AM	12:06 PM	3:06 PM	5:34 PM	6:51 PM
Fri	23	6	5:20 AM	6:36 AM	12:06 PM	3:07 PM	5:35 PM	6:52 PM
Sat	24	7	5:18 AM	6:35 AM	12:06 PM	3:08 PM	5:36 PM	6:53 PM
Sun	25	8	5:17 AM	6:33 AM	12:05 PM	3:09 PM	5:37 PM	6:54 PM
Mon	26	9	5:15 AM	6:32 AM	12:05 PM	3:09 PM	5:39 PM	6:55 PM
Tue	27	10	5:14 AM	6:30 AM	12:05 PM	3:10 PM	5:40 PM	6:56 PM
Wed	28	11	5:14 AM	6:30 AM	12:05 PM	3:10 PM	5:40 PM	6:56 PM

Call to Prayer

Fajr:
30 minutes after Adhan

Dhuhr:
1:15 pm

Asr:
4:00 pm

Maghrib:
2 Rak'as after Adhan

Isha:
8:00 pm

Jummah:
1:00 pm

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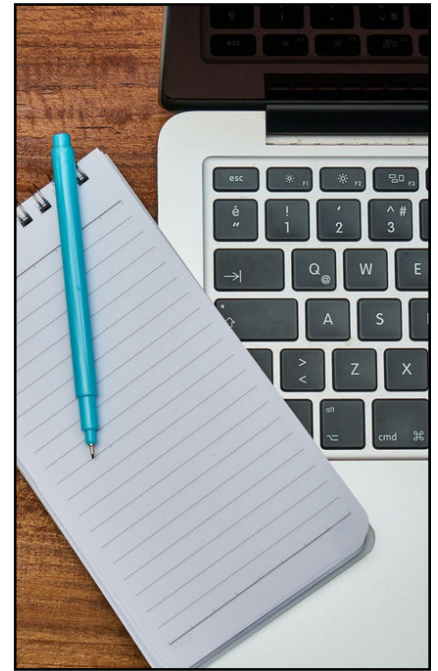
The Mecca Center Community Space

As the Mecca Center community grows, so does the number of voices within it.

The Mecca Center believes in providing a platform for community members to express their thoughts and ideas and for that reason we are creating a space in the Mecca Center monthly newsletter called “Voices of the Community” so that Mecca community members can share their opinions on topics related to the Mecca Center or general subjects pertinent to the Muslim American community.

Relevant opinions will be selected for publishing by a Mecca Center editorial board. Questions will be published with a response from Mecca Center administration as appropriate. Fiqh questions will be answered by Sh. Hassan Aly.

Those interested in working within a small board for this newsletter section, please communicate with Dr. Talal Sunbulli at tsunbulli@aol.com. Opinions and questions for “Community Space” can be submitted to communications@meccacenter.org.



Dr. Asra Ali elected to ISNA Executive Committee

The Mecca Center congratulates board member Dr. Asra Ali who has been newly elected as an executive committee board member of the Islamic Society of North America (ISNA). Dr. Ali’s efforts with ISNA will aim to foster the development of the Muslim community, interfaith relations, civic engagement, and a better understanding of Islam.

Dr. Ali lives in the Chicago suburbs, where she is a practicing dentist and a clinical faculty member/associate professor at Midwestern University College of Dental Medicine.

RSVP online at meccacenter.org or by calling 630-241-2000 (ext. 2)



Annual Fundraising Dinner

Sunday, February 11, 2018

Registration 5:00 PM

DRURY LANE 100 DRURY LANE
OAK BROOK TERRACE, IL 60181





The Mecca Center Imam's Message



Asalamu Alaikum, Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Every year in the United States, on the third Monday of January, we observe a federal holiday since 1986 in some states, and as of 2000, in all 50 states, in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., one of the greatest civic and moral leaders in our nation's history.

For American Muslims, MLK Day is great opportunity to learn and reflect upon our Islamic principles of supporting and standing with the truth, to be among the true believers of Allah SWT "By Al-'Asr (the time). Verily, man is in loss, except those who believe and do righteous good deeds, and recommend one another to the truth, and recommend one another to patience."(Surah Al-Asr)

It is also an ideal time to learn about MLK's life and how his sacrifices reflect the continuous struggle for justice, and link that to the teachings of the Holy Quran and the Sunnah of our beloved Prophet Muhammad (SAW) and his great companions. When I first watched the "I Have a Dream" speech, the first thing that came to mind was our beloved Prophet's last sermon "Khutbatul Wadaa," especially where he (SAW) said, "All mankind is from Adam and Eve, an Arab has no superiority over a non-Arab nor a non-Arab has any superiority over an Arab; also a white has no superiority over a black, nor a black has any superiority over a white- except by piety and good action."

Although this speech is more than 1,400 years old, the connotations of the message are unfortunately still relevant today in 2018. Since this profound statement from Prophet Muhammad (SAW), reformers and leaders from all walks of life have fought for racial equality across the world. In the United States, Martin Luther King Jr. has left a great legacy for which future generations still follow.

MLK said "I look to the day when people will not be judged by the color of their skin, but by the content of their character." This meaning is very clear in Quran verses, "O mankind, We [i.e. God] have created you from a male and a female; and We have made you into tribes and sub-tribes for the sake of easy recognition. Verily, the most honorable among you, in the sight of God, is the most righteous among you. Surely, God is All-Knowing, All-Aware." (Quran 49:14)"

It is also in the Seerah of our beloved Prophet Muhammad (SAW), not only in speeches, but in actions. The Prophet Muhammad (SAW) established the traditions of equality and appreciation for diversity, when he gathered around him Uthman, the Qurayshi - Suhib, the Roman - Salman, the Persian, and especially when he assigned a dark-skinned Ethiopian named Bilal deliver the first ever Islamic call to prayer.

MLK Day is a great time for American Muslims to reflect on the Islamic values of truth, justice, and equality, while recognizing and embracing the beautiful diversity that Allah (SWT) has created. It is also a great time to give back to your community through service as MLK did for communities across the United States. Simple things like volunteering at the masjid, organizing a food or clothing drive, or donating to charitable causes put our values into action and help create a better society for people from all walks of life.

Sh. Hassan Aly, Imam & Religious Director

A Message from the Sunday School Principal

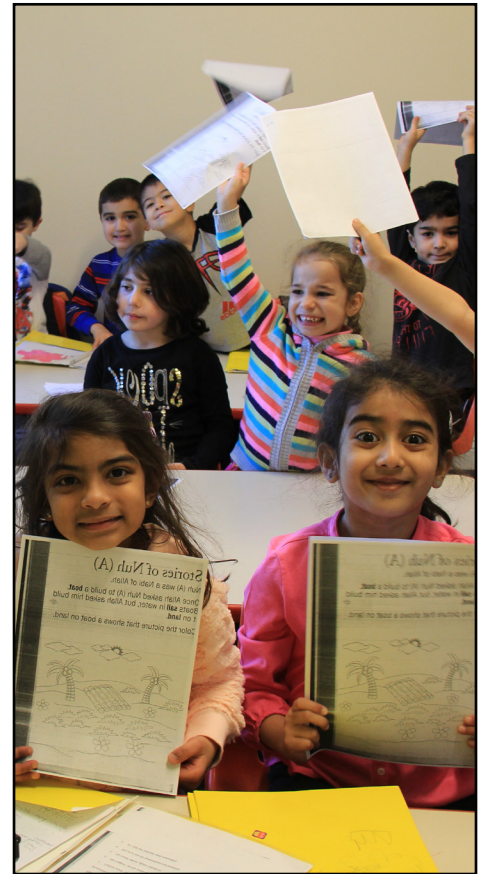
Assalamu Alaikum,

The Mecca Center Sunday School is off to a great start with the second semester. Peeking into various classes, you will find pajama parties to simulate a lesson on the nighttime prayers, singing of the Arabic alphabet song to enhance learning, and a viewing and discussion of the movie, The Message. Furthermore, students have completed mid-year evaluations in all subjects and are diligently moving along with the various curricula, learning how to read the Quran and understanding the Arabic language. Masha'Allah the progress of our students is impressive!

Alhamdulillah, we have begun our second semester with the new security system completely installed. In order to ensure the safety of our students, the doors will be locked from 10:05 am - 2:05 pm during school hours. If for any reason you need to get into the school during these times, there is a buzzer and camera system that alerts us of who is there when it is pressed. In order to ensure the security of our students, we kindly ask our families to report if their child(ren) are going to be absent, either through email or through their teachers' WhatsApp groups.

Regards,

Linda Hamadeh, M.Ed., Ed.D.
Mecca Center Sunday School Principal



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A Message from the Youth Director

Salaamu Alaikum Mecca Center Family,

I hope and pray that you and your families are all in the best of Iman, health, and circumstances.

Our faith is one constantly calling to introspection {Muraqabah } and purification {Tazkiyah}. Over the past month, our youth have come together at all levels, in groups with mentors and colleagues, and even with themselves as individuals to do both. We sat together and reviewed 2017, its ups and downs in our personal lives and the lessons that Allah (swt) gifted us through those ups and downs in 2017. We then moved forward in putting together 2018 plans filled with not only dreams and aspirations, but practical steps to accomplishing those dreams and making them into a reality. It is through these plans that we hope revive the prophetic tradition that teaches us, the best of actions are those done consistently even if they seem small or trivial in magnitude.

While doing so is undoubtedly essential for the development of our youth, I think the time has come for each of us to do that with regards to our duties to our community. How have we supported the Mecca Center? What skills, knowledge, and resources do I have that I can benefit the community with? How often do I visit the center with my family and friends for congregational prayers in the hopes of seeking spiritual rejuvenation and growth? Perhaps, we can even go beyond that and ask ourselves (as a nation that Allah refers to as “the best of nations” for its ability to continuously call and promote all that is good and stand against corruption and evil), am I playing an integral role in facilitating my community to do just that for society at large? By going through this level of introspection on an individual level, we can then come together and become injectors of hope and positive change in a world that so desperately seeks it. We can then begin to work towards allowing our center to be one that is not only all inclusive, but one that is relevant, effective, and proactive in all it has to offer.

Make no mistake my dear brothers and sisters, our faith is one for the people, indiscriminately of any factor. The challenge is for us to see 2018 as the year we step up and out of our comfort zones to live up that that very principle that echoes through our very own history across the world. The great caliph and companion Omar {may Allah be pleased with him} said: “Hold yourself accountable before you are held accountable.” We have a duty, towards ourselves, our families, our faith-based community and society at large. I welcome each and every one of you to see the Mecca Center as your center where we can work together into making those very dreams a reality.

May Allah (swt) bless us all with the sincerity and patience to succeed and allow us to be a helping hand of support for one another each and every step of the way.

Your brother,

Sh. Tariq Musleh, Youth Director



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PRESENT

FREE COMMUNITY HEALTH FAIR

Saturday, February 10, 2018 | 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Activities will include free screening of:



Blood Sugar



Lung Function



Blood Pressure



Dental Health



Body Mass & Nutrition



Mental Health



Joint Pain Therapy

And more doctors and pediatricians on site to answer all health concerns and perform lab testing.

Anne M. Jeans Elementary School
16W631 91st St, Willowbrook, IL 60527

Fun Games & Refreshments will also be served

THE MECCA CENTER PRESENTS



Community Night

SHUKR: THE MISSING INGREDIENT FOR A LIFE OF HAPPINESS AND SUCCESS

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 8th 2018
6:30PM - 8:00PM
16W560 91ST ST, WILLOWBROOK, IL 60527

WITH GUEST SPEAKER **LENA TLEIB**

DINNER WILL BE PROVIDED

MVMT
MECCA MVMT PRESENTS

Friday Night Live

A Night Full Of Light, Relaxing, And Fun

Guys And Girls Ages 14-18
Every Friday 7:00pm-9:00pm

Info: mvmt@meccacenter.org | 16W560 91st St, Willowbrook, IL 60527

Sandwiches



Wrap

Steak	\$ 5.00
Kifta Kabab	\$ 5.00
Beef Shawarma	\$ 5.00
Chicken Shawarma	\$ 5.00
Chicken Tender	\$ 4.00
Falafel	\$ 4.00

Taiyba Meza's



Price

Fried Kebbeh	كبة مقوية	\$ 1.50
Labanyeh Kebbeh	كبة لبنية	\$ 2.00
Grilled Kebbeh	كبة مشوية	\$ 3.00
Syrian Ouzi wraps	أوزي باللحمة	\$ 2.50
Beef Sambusek	سيمونك لحمة	\$ 1.25
Cheese Pie	قطاير جبنة	\$ 1.00
Spinach Pie	قطاير سبانخ	\$ 1.25
Safha	صفحة شامية أو مضفورة	\$ 1.75
Musakhan	مسخن دجاج	\$ 1.55
Za'tar Pie	قطيرة زعتر	\$ 1.00
Chicken Roll	رول دجاج	\$ 1.50
Hot Dogs Roll	رول نقاق	\$ 2.00
Muhamara Pie	قطيرة محمرة	\$ 1.00
Falafel	فلافل	\$ 4.00/Dozen



Appetizers

Half Tray | Full Tray

Hummus ——— حمص
\$18.00 | \$35.00
A blend of chickpeas mixed with tahini, topped with olive oil and spices, served as a cold dip with pita bread.

Baba Ghanoush/Mutabal ——— متبل ا باب غنوج
\$20.00 | \$35.00
Char-broiled eggplant, mashed and blended with tahini, yogurt and parsley, topped with olive oil and spices, served as a cold dip with pita bread.

Salad ——— سلطة
\$15.00 | \$30.00
Freshly diced tomatoes, cucumbers and parsley, and the dressing is tahini sauce.

Tabbouleh Salad ——— تبولة
\$20.00 | \$40.00
Freshly diced tomatoes, onions, parsley, green peppers and cracked wheat tossed in olive oil and lemon juice.

Fattoush Salad ——— فتوش
\$15.00 | \$30.00
Lettuce, tomatoes, cucumbers onions, parsley, and green peppers are tossed in our house vinaigrette and topped with our homemade pita croutons.

Muhamara Dip ——— محمرة
\$20.00 | \$40.00
Walnut, red pepper, hot sauce, onions, Tahini sauce, parmiganate concentrate and breadstick crumbs.



Entrée

Half Tray | Full Tray

Kebab Hindi ——— كباب هندي
\$40.00 | \$80.00
Oven baked ground beef kebab with diced tomatoes, potatoes, eggplant, and green pepper.

Stuffed Vegetables ——— محاشي مشكلة
\$40.00 | \$80.00
Zucchini, eggplant and green pepper stuffed with rice and lamb.

Grape Vine and Zucchini ——— بيري
\$45.00 | \$90.00
Stuffed grape leaves and zucchini with rice and lamb.

Stuffed Cabbage ——— ملفوف بخنة
\$40.00 | \$80.00
Cabbage leaves stuffed with rice and beef, and cooked in authentic cumin and pomegranate sauce.

Fava Beans and Rice ——— رز بالفلول الأخضر بالتحم
\$40.00 | \$80.00
Fava beans with rice topped with lamb shanks.

Freekeh ——— فريكة باللحمة أو بالدجاج
\$45.00 | \$90.00
Freekeh cooked with lamb or chicken.

Mnazaleh ——— منزلة بالدجاج
\$40.00 | \$80.00
Oven baked stuffed eggplant with minced meat, onions and tomato sauce.

Stuffed fried zucchini ——— شيخ المحشي
\$40.00 | \$80.00
Fried zucchini stuffed with minced meat and onions then oven baked in yogurt.

Makloubeh ——— مقفوية فلسطينية
\$40.00 | \$80.00
Potatoes, cauliflower and carrots with rice topped with roasted chicken legs.

Entrée

Half Tray | Full Tray

Damascus's Makloubeh ——— مقفوية شامية
\$40.00 | \$80.00
Fried eggplant and lamb over specially spiced rice.

Damascus's Mulokhia w/ Chicken ——— ملوخية بالدجاج
\$40.00 | \$80.00
Molokhia whole leaves, garlic, and fresh cilantro topped with chicken.

Lamb Shank ——— لحم موزات بالعظم
\$50.00 | \$100.00
Lamb shank (leg) with cooked vegetables and tomato sauce.

Layerd Kebbeh ——— كبة بالصينية
\$20.00 | \$40.00
Kebbeh(burghul, beef) layerd with beef and nuts.

Palestinian Ouzi w/Chicken ——— أوزي فلسطينية بالدجاج
\$40.00 | \$80.00
Mixed Vegetables cooked with rice topped with chicken legs.

Meatloaf ——— لحمة بالصلحن
\$35.00 | \$70.00
Oven cooked beef with garlic topped with green peppers and tomatoes.

Lasagna ——— لازانيا بالخضار أو اللحمة
\$35.00 | \$70.00
Layered lasagna with ground beef, onions, green peppers, tomato sauce, olive oil and Italian seasoning, topped with mozzarella cheese.

Chicken Alfredo ——— معفونة الريفو بالدجاج
\$30.00 | \$60.00
Chicken and Fettuccine pasta cooked in Alfredo sauce.

Entrée

Half Tray | Full Tray

Okra ——— بامية
\$30.00 | \$60.00
Okra cooked with beef in tomato sauce, topped with green cilantro.

Mandi Yemeni ——— مندي يمني بالدجاج
\$35.00 | \$70.00
Whole roasted chicken cooked with rice and dried raisins and special spices.

Biryani ——— برياني بالدجاج
\$35.00 | \$70.00
Rice cooked in special sauce topped with chicken.

Shishburak ——— شيشبرك
\$40.00 | \$80.00
Lebanese version of Italian tortellini stuffed with beef cooked with yogurt.

Kabsah w/Chicken ——— كبسة بالدجاج
\$35.00 | \$70.00
Rice, onions, tomatoes, green peppers and our special spices, topped with lamb or chicken.

Mansaf ——— منسف أرمني باللحم
\$40.00 | \$80.00
Lamb Shank boiled in dry yogurt with special spices served with rice.

Yalanji ——— يالنجي
\$40.00 | \$80.00
Steamed grape leaves stuffed with vegetables, and seasoned rice, served cold.

Spaghetti and Meatballs ——— معفونة سباغيتي بكرات اللحم
\$30.00 | \$60.00
Spaghetti noodles, Italian seasoning, and tomato sauce with meatballs.



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عنوان الحلال الطيب

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